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## TRAINING IN CONTAGIOUS HOSPITALS

DEAR EDITOR: I wish to know if it is possible to obtain the addresses of smallpox hospitals or training schools through the JOURNAL? I am very anxious to take a contagious training of this kind. GERTRUDE WALKER,

Concord, N. H.

[The information which we have been able to send in answer to this question is limited. We submit it to the readers of the JOURNAL for further enlightenment.—EDITOR.]

## A PRACTICAL QUESTION

DEAR EDITOR: Will some one who has had experience in a small hospital on the cottage plan, where there are few of the comforts of administration, tell me how to keep food hot when kitchen equipment and service is poor and distance great. When toast and mashed potato are stone cold, can they be made palatable? E. J.

## THE JOURNAL AND THE PRIVATE DUTY NURSE

DEAR EDITOR: I wish to tell you how very, very much I have been encouraged and benefited by the JOURNAL while doing private duty. My subscription does not expire until April. I shall renew at that time, as I always hope to keep in touch with nurses and their work. M. S. CAPRON MAPES, R.N.

## GREETINGS

DEAR EDITOR: The JOURNAL is a valued magazine in my home. The other members of the family are almost as anxious to get it as I. Success to the JOURNAL the coming year. MABEL ARTHUR, Franklin, N. C.

## CONCERNING CHIROPODY

DEAR EDITOR: Will you please let me reply through the JOURNAL to a number of letters asking where to take instruction in chiropody. The nearest and best chiropodist will teach a nurse how to handle a knife and the method of treating different conditions, but a nurse must prepare the feet and dress them from a surgical stand-point, always looking for the cause of trouble, working to cure whenever it is possible. I. T. S., 1883.

## THE INTERSTATE SECRETARY AT OMAHA

DEAR EDITOR: It gives me unusual pleasure to say a few words regarding the recent visit of Miss McIsaac, our interstate secretary. On December 8 we were glad to welcome her on a promised visit on her return from her western trip. She was only with us twenty-four hours, but crowded enough good words and courage into that short time to fully repay the associations that make her position possible. By invitation, she met the superintendents and assistants of the hospitals of the city informally and discussed various problems,—the mode of conducting state examinations, organizing a central directory, local alumnae associations, etc. Her suggestions and advice we consider invaluable. Her talk to the nurses in training during her earlier visit had awakened them to their coming responsibility, and the privilege of hearing her again

made them keenly alive to the fact that the responsibility, both individually and as a whole, is theirs of maintaining the high standard of our profession, and of the necessity of constant growth. I feel justified in saying she will always find a warm welcome awaiting her in Omaha.

ELLEN STEWART, R.N.,  
Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital, Omaha, Neb.

#### PERSONAL

If Annie Alexander of Denver, Colorado, will write to her sister Florence, who is in trouble, she will oblige.—RUTH.

#### THE BOSTON FLOATING HOSPITAL

DEAR EDITOR: In the June number of the JOURNAL I read an advertisement of the Boston Floating Hospital and went there this last summer to take a post-graduate course. There was one thing which I was surprised to find and that was that the nurses were expected to go from the hotel where they had their rooms down on the street car to the dock in their uniforms. It did seem to me that after so much has been written in our JOURNALS and so much has been said in our county and state associations about the nurse appearing on the street in the sick room uniform that this state of things should not be allowed. A great many of the nurses did object. It was very hot, and often too hot to wear coats, but some of us did swelter and wore our long coats. I wondered after I got there if the JOURNAL knew of the state of affairs if it would advertise such a hospital. Of course conditions differ in different parts of the country. I know that in our state we are very careful in admitting graduates of hospitals to our state association where nurses are allowed to go on the street in uniform.

MARY I. HALL.

[While we disapprove, on general principles, of the wearing of the uniform on the street, we should hardly consider this a vital question in considering the practical value of the graduate experience to be gained from the course as advertised. We have yet to hear of a hospital or training school, anywhere in the world, where everything is above criticism, but it would seem a simple matter, and an improvement, to set apart a stateroom where street costumes could be exchanged for uniforms.—Ed.]

#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEAR EDITOR: I wish you might print in "Letters to the Editor" a question that I would like answered in regard to practical nurses becoming registered nurses without an examination. As I have read the law, and understand it, they are required to pass an examination,—that was prior to July 1, 1910,—but I understand that any practical nurse can be a registered nurse without an examination. A great many graduate nurses think of what use is it being a registered nurse when any practical nurse can become one by just filling out an application blank and sending in the \$10.00 fee? I cannot see, if such is the case, how a doctor is going to know whether one is a graduate nurse or a practical, if they too can add R.N. to their name. It seems to me if practical nurses charge \$20.00, a graduate ought to charge \$30.00, for only